

**CUBA**/from page 1A

most tangible demonstrations of his long-standing pledge to engage directly with U.S. adversaries. Heralding the embassy agreement, Obama declared: "This is what change looks like."

Cuban television broadcast Obama's statement live, underscoring the new spirit. In a letter to Obama, Cuban President Raul Castro praised the embassy announcement as a way to "develop respectful relations and cooperation between our peoples and governments."

Despite the historic step, U.S. and Cuba are still grappling with deep divisions and mistrust.

The U.S. is particularly concerned about Cuba's reputed human rights violations. Cuba is demanding an end to the U.S. economic embargo, the return of the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay and a halt to U.S. radio and TV broadcasts aimed at the island.

Obama wants Congress to lift the embargo, but staunch Republican opposition makes that unlikely in the near future. Republicans, as well as a handful of Democrats, say Obama is prematurely rewarding an oppressive government that jails dissidents and silences political opponents.

"The Obama administration is handing the Castros a lifetime dream of legitimacy without getting a thing for the Cuban people being oppressed by this brutal communist dictatorship," said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

Republican presidential contenders had their say, too. Sen. Marco Rubio, son of a Cuban immigrant, said Obama was making concessions to an "odious regime," former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said the plan was "legitimizing the brutal Castro regime," and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz said it was a "slap in the face of a close ally" to put an embassy in Havana before Jerusalem.

**A look back at U.S. – Cuban relations**



**1959-61** Fidel Castro's rebels take power. Soon after Castro establishes diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, nationalizes U.S.-owned refineries and expropriates other U.S. businesses. The U.S. bans most exports to Cuba, and in

January 1961 breaks off diplomatic relations. A day after Castro declares Cuba a Socialist state, CIA-backed Cuban exiles stage a failed invasion at the Bay of Pigs on April 17, 1961.

**October 1962 — Missile crisis**

A U.S. blockade forces the removal of Soviet nuclear missiles from Cuba in a standoff that brought the world to the brink of nuclear war. U.S. President John F. Kennedy agrees privately not to invade Cuba.



**Cuban Exodus 1980 & 1994**

**The Mariel boatlift:** (pictured) In April 1980, the Cuban government says anyone can leave; some 125,000 Cubans to flee in the months to follow.

**Another exodus:** In August 1994, Castro announces he will not stop Cubans trying to leave. About 40,000 head to sea, destined for the U.S.

**December 1991 — Soviet collapse**

The Soviet Union dissolves, ending financial aid to client states. The move deals a severe economic blow to Cuba, which conducted 80 percent of its trade with Soviet bloc members.



**February 2008 — Fidel steps down**

After nearly five decades in power and several years battling health problems, Castro resigns as president. The Cuban parliament elects

Raul Castro, Fidel's brother, as president.

**2009 to March 2014 — Reforms and the USAID**

**Touting reforms:** Cuba begins to liberalize cellphone use, expands self employment, forms a tax code for private workers and relaxes exit visa rules. In turn, the U.S. eases travel restrictions and allows Americans to spend money more freely in Cuba. The trade embargo is kept in place.

**USAID:** An Associated Press investigation finds the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) secretly worked to establish a Twitter-like service between 2009 and 2012 that could be used to create "flash mobs" and potentially mobilize political opposition in Cuba.

**December 2014 — Policy shift**

Declaring that the 50-year-old embargo has failed, President Barack Obama makes the biggest U.S. policy shift toward Cuba in decades, restoring diplomatic relations and expanding economic ties.



**July 2015 — Reopening embassies**

Obama announces the two nations will reopen embassies in each other's capitals on July 20, marking the largest tangible step to date toward normalizing U.S.-Cuban relations.

Source: AP Photos

AP

**COLLUSION**/from page 1A

carrying capacity, or "the undesirability of your company or any other airline increasing capacity."

The Justice Department asked each airline for its passenger-carrying capacity both by region, and overall, since January 2010.

Justice Department spokeswoman Emily Pierce confirmed that the department is looking into potential "unlawful coordination" among some airlines. She declined to comment further or say which airlines are being investigated.

On a day when the overall stock market was up, stocks of the major U.S. airlines ended the day down 1 to 3 percent on news of the investigation.

American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines all said they received a letter and are complying. Several smaller carriers, including JetBlue Airways and Frontier Airlines, said they had not been contacted by the government.

The airlines publicly discussed capacity early last month in Miami at the International Air Transport Association's annual meeting. After hearing about that meeting, U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., requested a Justice Department investigation.

The department had tried to block the most recent merger, the 2013 joining of American Airlines and US Airways, but ultimately agreed to let it proceed after the airlines made minor concessions. Some Wall Street ana-



AP PHOTO/FILE

**Southwest Airlines is one of several major U.S. carriers contacted regarding a civil antitrust investigation by the Justice Department.**

lysts argue that to remain financially strong, airlines should not expand capacity faster than the U.S. economy. And from January 2010 to January 2014, they didn't.

In that 4-year period, capacity on domestic flights was virtually flat while the U.S. economy grew about 2.2 percent per year. From January 2014 to January 2015, however, the airlines expanded by 5.5 percent, topping the economy's 2.4 percent growth for 2014.

Thanks to a series of mergers starting in 2008, America, Delta, Southwest and United now control more than 80 percent of the seats in the domestic travel market. They've eliminated unprofitable flights, filled more seats on planes and made a very public effort to slow growth to command higher airfares.

It worked. The average domestic airfare rose an inflation-adjusted 13 percent from 2009 to 2014,

according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. And that doesn't include the billions of dollars airlines collect from new fees. During the past 12 months, the airlines took in \$3.6 billion in bag fees and \$3 billion in reservation-change fees.

That has led to record profits. In the past two years, U.S. airlines earned a combined \$19.7 billion.

This year could bring even higher profits thanks to a massive drop in the price of jet fuel, airlines' single highest expense. In April, U.S. airlines paid \$1.94 a gallon, down 34 percent from the year before.

That worries Wall Street analysts and investors. Cheap fuel has led airlines to make money-losing decisions in the past, rapidly expanding, launching new routes and setting unrealistically low fares to lure passengers. Airlines already flying those routes would match the fare, and all carriers would lose money.

**FREEWAY**/from page 1A

the big plan to redesign I-25 through Pueblo, widening the freeway, fixing bridges and giving the highway a complete overhaul. There were many public meetings and design changes along the way.

"The environmental assessment alone took more than 10 years," said John Cater, the Federal Highway Administration director for Colorado.

The planning process often took place against a backdrop of uncertain

federal highway budgets so local residents frequently told CDOT officials they were skeptical they'd see the highway rebuilt in their lifetimes.

Pueblo County Commissioner Liane "Buffie" McFadyen put the total cost of all the planned highway changes in Pueblo at \$88 million.

She called the Pueblo section of I-25 the oldest in the state.

Underlining the importance of I-25 to the local economy, McFadyen noted that even Pueblo West officials made Pueblo freeway improvements their top highway recommendation to CDOT.

[proper@chieftain.com](mailto:proper@chieftain.com)

**The Pueblo Chieftain**  
Copyright © 2015  
**1868-2015**

**COLORADO'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER/148TH YEAR**

The Pueblo Chieftain (ISSN07473559), an independent newspaper, is published daily by the Star-Journal Publishing Corp., 825 W. Sixth St., Pueblo, Colo. 81003. Periodical Class postage paid at Pueblo, Colo., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address change to The Pueblo Chieftain, P.O. Box 36, Pueblo, CO 81002.

Robert H. Rawlings - Publisher & Editor  
Jane Rawlings - Assistant Publisher/  
Vice President

Brad Slater - General Manager  
Steve Henson - Managing Editor  
Tim Coles - Circulation Director  
Douglas Brooks - CIS Director  
Greg Wagner - Chief Financial Officer  
Jayson Peters - Digital Media Director  
Bill Majors - Mailroom & Facilities Manager  
Cisco Arrellano - Press Manager  
Bob Hudson - Advertising Manager  
Tracey Mattoon-Amos - Promotions Manager  
Mike McDowell - Composing Manager  
Maya Galeas - HR Manager

**Business hours:**  
Monday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Classified Advertising, open until 5:30 p.m. daily. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

**Circulation Customer Service:**  
Mon. - Fri. 5:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**Subscription rates:**  
By carrier or distributor; \$13.56 for four weeks.  
Rates by carrier or distributor may vary in select areas.  
By mail in Colorado: \$324 for 48 weeks.  
By mail outside Colorado: \$366 for 48 weeks.

**Where to write:**  
P.O. Box 36  
Pueblo, CO 81002

**Where to call:**  
Circulation - 719-544-0166  
Classified - 719-542-0000  
All other departments - 719-544-3520  
Online - [www.chieftain.com](http://www.chieftain.com)

**Missed your paper?**  
Call 719-544-0166  
Mon.-Fri. - 5:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday - 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday - 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
To start home delivery - 719-544-0166

**UP TO \$100 OFF**  
**All Quadra-Fire Wood and Pellet Stoves**  
Go to [QuadraFire.com](http://QuadraFire.com) for details

**QUADRA-FIRE**  
NOTHING BURNS LIKE A QUAD  
**The Smart Alternative BIGHORN Stove & Spa**  
1511 W. 4th St.  
543-2673  
[www.BighornStoveandSpa.com](http://www.BighornStoveandSpa.com)

**E1 COATINGS**  
RESIDENTIAL | INDUSTRIAL | AUTOMOTIVE FINISHES  
719.543.4743  
910 S. SANTE FE • PUEBLO, CO 81006

**Yes!** Your perfect smile is only a phone call away.  
**(719) 545-3838**  
✓ Family Dentist  
✓ Routine Cleanings & Xrays  
✓ Fillings, Crowns & Dentures  
**All Seasons Dental, Inc.**  
Kristi Craig, DDS  
2208 Thatcher Ave, Pueblo, CO

**ABC Home Health Care and Personal Services Inc.**  
A Better Choice for Adults, Babies & Children  
Let our personalized services keep you safe in the comfort of your own home!  
Medical and non-medical services offered.  
Locally owned and operated  
Medicaid, Medicare, Private Insurance and Private Pay Accepted  
2320 N. Grand Ave., Pueblo CO 81003  
Ofc: (719) 543-2700 Fax: (719) 543-2704

**Peace of mind**  
We are committed to providing personalized therapy and long-term care services with the attention and compassion you deserve.  
Medicaid, Medicare, Insurance & Private Pay  
Private Rooms • Skilled Nursing Care  
Short Stay Rehab • Outpatient Rehab  
Medicaid long-term care beds now available! Call today to schedule your tour.  
**Life Care Centers of America**  
Joint Commission accredited  
Life Care Center of Pueblo  
719.564.2000 • 2118 Chatalet Ln.  
University Park Care Center  
719.545.5321 • 945 Desert Flower Blvd.  
Pueblo, CO • [LCCA.com](http://LCCA.com)

**Southwest Motors**  
*Drive Better!*  
**Ken Sisneros**  
*- Let me help you select your next vehicle*  
**Over 700 Vehicles In-Stock!**  
2600 U.S. 50 Pueblo, Colorado (719) 545-5700  
[www.SouthwestMotors.com](http://www.SouthwestMotors.com)

**SOUTHERN COLORADO TOP SHOP**  
**Your Source for Custom Laminate and Solid Surface Counter Tops**  
**719.404.2488**

**Buckley Chang Eye Institute**  
*Welcomes to the Practice*  
**James Burden, M.D.**  
*Ophthalmologist*  
**Specializing in glaucoma, cataract surgery, dry eye, and comprehensive ophthalmology.**  
Dr. Burden is a board certified glaucoma fellowship trained ophthalmologist. Dr. Burden is originally from South Carolina, completing his medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina, and his glaucoma fellowship training at the University of Iowa. He served 23 years in the Air Force, including a tour as a Squadron Commander at the U.S. Air Force Academy. He completed his military service as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery and the Director of the Glaucoma Service at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.  
**Call Dr. James Burden's Pueblo office at 719-564-1893**  
**BUCKLEY CHANG EYE INSTITUTE** 2037 JERRY MURPHY RD. SUITE 102

**Check Us Out!**  
[www.chieftain.com](http://www.chieftain.com) **CLICK**  
**parkview MEDICAL CENTER**  
400 West 16th St.  
584-4000  
*Caring For You*  
[www.parkviewmc.org](http://www.parkviewmc.org)